## **CLAIMS**

- 1. Use of PTX3 or one of its functional derivatives for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of bone or cartilage diseases.
- 2. Use of PTX3 or one of its functional derivatives, in combination with TSG-6, for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of bone or cartilage diseases.
- 3. Use of PTX3, or one of its functional derivatives, in combination with TSG-6, for the preparation of a medicament useful for improving fertility in women who need it.
- 4. Use according to claims 1-3, in which what is meant by PTX3 is any long pentraxin PTX3, that is to say, irrespective of its natural (human or animal), recombinant or synthetic origin.
- 5. Use according to claims 1-4, in which what is meant by derivative is a functional analogue of long pentraxin PTX3 bearing one or more mutations, deletions, insertions, or post-transductional modifications and conserving the functional ability to bind TSG-6.
- 6. Use according to claim 6, in which the long pentraxin PTX3 is human long pentraxin PTX3.
- 7. Use according to claim 1 or 2, in which said diseases are selected of: consisting osteoarthritis; group osteoarthrosis; degenerative diseases of the joints; collagen deficiencies; cartilage or bone diseases characterised by endochondrial ossifications: primary arthritis, including, for example, rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile undifferentiated chronic arthritis, arthritis. and polyarthritis: secondary arthritis of autoimmune origin, including, for example, systemic lupus erythematosus arthritis, psoriasic arthritis, Crohn's disease arthritis; arthritis of dysmetabolic origin, including, for

example, monosodium urate arthropathy, pyrophosphate arthropathy, calcium oxalate arthropathy; infectious arthritis, arthritis due to osteoporosis, aseptic osteonecrosis, benign and malignant bone tumours.

- 8. Combination comprising PTX3 or one of its derivatives and TSG-6.
- 9. Use of the combination according to claim 8 as a medicament.
- 10. Pharmaceutical composition containing as its active ingredient the combination according to claim 8 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and/or diluent.